



Government of
Saskatchewan

Annual Report 1990-91

92-05042/

Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food

**Eighty-sixth Annual Report
for the twelve months ending
March 31, 1991**

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Letters of Transmittal

Her Honour

The Honourable Sylvia O. Fedoruk, O.C., S.O.M.

Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Saskatchewan

Your Honour:

I have the honour to submit the annual report of Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food, Counselling and Assistance for Farmers, the Saskatchewan Agriculture Development Fund, and the audited statements for the Cattle Marketing Deductions Fund, the Farm Purchase Program, and the Horned Cattle Fund for the twelve months ending March 31, 1991.

Respectfully submitted,



Honourable Bernhard H. Wiens

Minister of Agriculture and Food



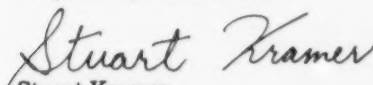
Honourable Bernhard H. Wiens

Minister of Agriculture and Food

Sir:

I wish to present to you the annual report of Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food, Counselling and Assistance for Farmers, the Saskatchewan Agriculture Development Fund, and the audited statements for the Cattle Marketing Deductions Fund, the Farm Purchase Program, and the Horned Cattle Fund for the twelve months ending March 31, 1991.

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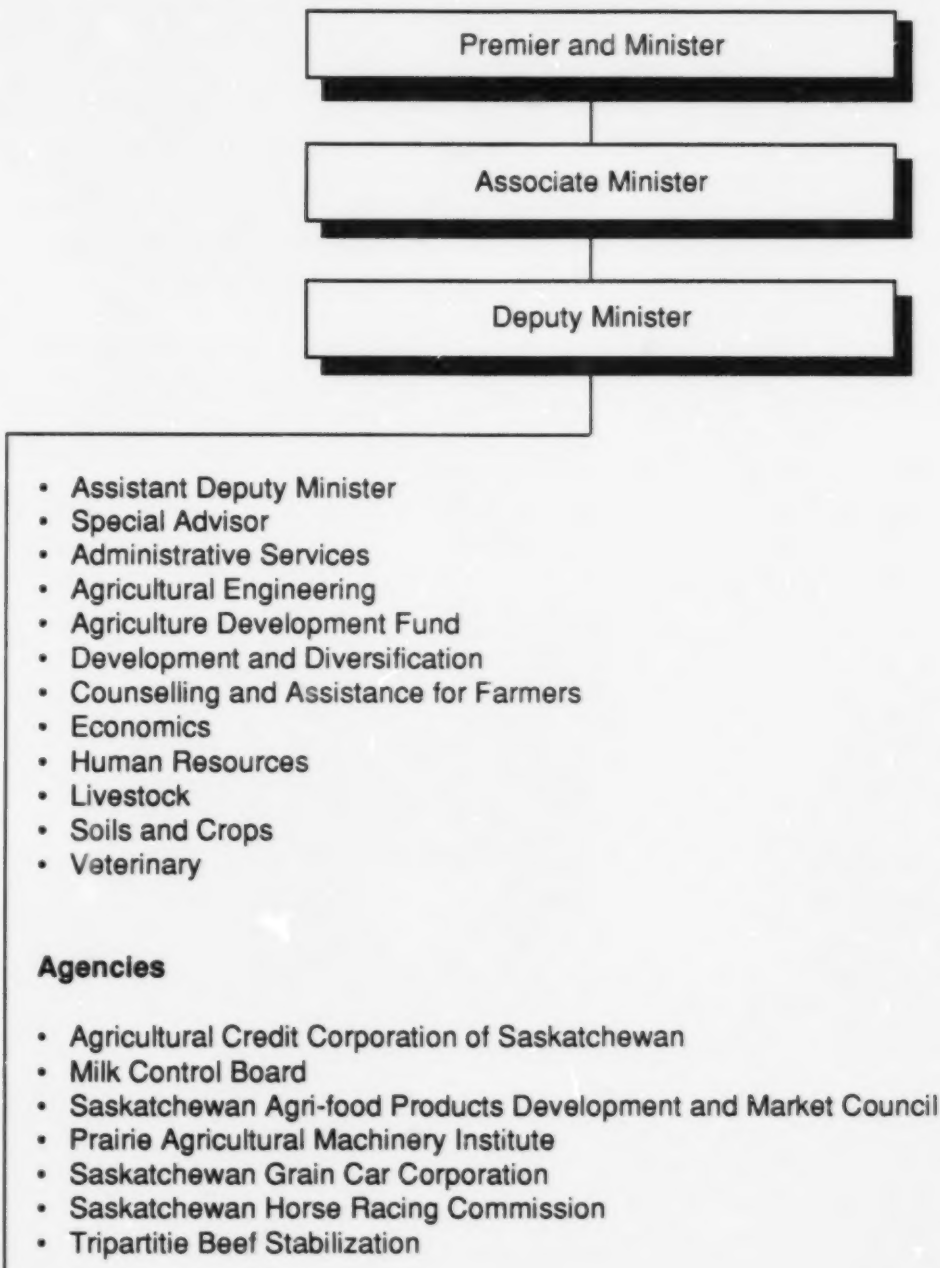


Stuart Kramer

Deputy Minister



Organization Chart (1990-91)



The Strategic Direction

The Department's strategic planning process began in May, 1990, when the Executive Management Team identified the elements which could form the basis for a strategic direction. Ten issues were identified. A department conference called "Meeting the Challenges" followed in June, 1990, to involve all staff in the initial stage of strategic planning.

Branch meetings, issue committee meetings and consultations with more than 40 agri-food industry organizations were held from June through November, 1990.

The issues were refined to nine and each branch initiated branch action plans to address these issues. The strategic issues identified were:

- Agri-food development
 - a partnership with industry
- Trends and policies
- Diversification
- Marketing and trade
- Competitiveness
- Financial and management support
- Agriculture and the environment
- Communication
- Client service

A second staff conference on strategic planning was held January 28, 1991, and a publication called **Building a Partnership -- A strategic direction for Agriculture and Food**, which incorporated the results of all meetings, was distributed to staff. This document was distributed to the industry during the Federal/Provincial Agriculture Ministers' Meeting in Regina March 1, 1991.

Branch and staff work plans are in the process of being developed specifically to meet the nine issues.

Copies of the strategic direction are available in the Agricultural Library or from the Publications Distribution Centre of Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food, Room B-33, Walter Scott Building, 3085 Albert Street, Regina, Saskatchewan, S4S 0B1.

Strategic Planning:
Department staff discuss the issues during a strategic planning conference.





Administrative Services Branch

The Administrative Services Branch provides department support-services in budgeting, accounting, space and accommodation, equipment and supplies, mail services, vehicle management, information technology management, legislation and administrative analysis.

Client Service

A major focus in 1990-91 was the re-inforcement of our awareness of the importance of client service. An employee workshop was held at Camp Raynor with facilitation from the Staff Development Branch of the Public Service Commission on "Serving People First". Several in-house workshops were also conducted which contributed to continued staff awareness of service and quality issues. A number of initiatives were identified by staff and have been implemented.

It is the Branch's objective to maintain high client service performance and to be constantly looking for ways to improve.



In-House Training: The Administrative Services Branch encourages and assists all staff to upgrade their computer-literary skills.

Timeliness of Payments

Department staff continued to maintain past years' high performance standards for timeliness of payments to suppliers with consistent performance of paying more than 90 per cent of supplier invoices within 30 days.

In total, more than 50,000 payment invoices were processed.

A rewrite of the Farm Purchase Program computer support system significantly improved our ability to process payments and respond to client inquiries more quickly, while reducing operating costs.

Local Area Network (LAN)

Operational stability of the departmental Local Area Network (LAN) was achieved, and the introduction of an electronic mail/office manager

system was successfully completed. The Systems Support Unit established an in-house Resource/Training Centre, in addition to using outside training sources, to assist department employees in developing their computer literacy skills.

A Correspondence Control Manager system was developed for the Minister's Office and the Deputy Minister's Office. Work commenced with the Economics Branch for the transfer of statistical applications from mainframe to the department's LAN. Work also commenced on the development of a tracking system for the Veterinary Laboratory. These projects were developed by private consultants, under co-ordination of the System Support Unit.

Agriculture Development and Diversification Secretariat

The mission of the Agriculture Development and Diversification Secretariat (ADD Secretariat) is to "build foundations for the future" in the agri-food sector.

In 1990-91, the ADD Secretariat worked closely with private individuals, companies, industry groups and other government agencies to facilitate agri-food development and diversification initiatives.

Agri-Food Industry Development

The Secretariat worked with proponents to assist in the development of glyphosate, processed alfalfa, ethanol, several food products, antler velvet, flax-based pulp, wind-based power generation, farm woodlots and horses.

Examples of the services provided are:

- Research into opportunities for lentil soup, specialty foods, and organic foods.
- Promotion of Saskatchewan jam and jelly into Quebec.
- Assistance to Saskatchewan game farmers to establish an antler-velvet processing joint venture with Japanese and Korean partners.
- Assistance to organic commodity producers to form an industry association and to develop marketing channels.
- Assistance to local communities interested in processing flax straw to pulp and paper.
- Assisted other communities to identify and evaluate other value-added processing opportunities.
- Advised and supported the Saskatchewan Food Processors Association, a group the Secretariat was instrumental in establishing in June, 1990.
- Worked with industry and other government groups to develop a food processing incubator.



Marketing to Quebec: Jams and jellies processed by Saskatchewan food processors were displayed and sold in Quebec stores through a special project initiated by the ADD Secretariat.

- Co-chaired an interdepartmental committee to develop a strategy for the development of the alfalfa processing industry in Saskatchewan.
- Provided advice and direction to the Farm Woodlot Association in efforts to determine potential for development of an agro-forestry industry.

- Worked with entrepreneurs interested in building a seed-bag manufacturing facility.
- Initiated investigations into the market potential for additional fresh mushroom production in Saskatchewan.



Diversified Food Production: Sifto Salt is mined, processed and packaged in Saskatchewan for sale to Western Canada.

Financial Planning and Sourcing of Capital

The majority of the efforts in this area were devoted to finding a mechanism to establish a capital pool for investment in agri-food development projects. A proposal to raise an equity fund for investment by Saskatchewan entrepreneurs in agriculture and food projects was developed.

In the financial area, the Secretariat also:

- Assisted and advised groups attempting to finance a glyphosate plant and a straw particle board plant.
- Investigated the potential for ethanol production and marketing with the view to setting up joint ventures.
- Assisted an aquaculture company to develop their business plan and financing options.

Trade Delegations: Meetings with international trade delegations increase Saskatchewan's market opportunities in the global marketplace.



- Worked with foreign investors interested in investing in the Saskatchewan agri-food sector.
- Assisted a producer of double-compressed alfalfa bales to develop a business plan and secure financing for the project.
- Examined the possibilities of using a tax incentive to stimulate the development of the agri-food sector in Saskatchewan.

Market Development and Trade Initiatives

Through research, the ADD Secretariat investigated many potential domestic and export markets including: Halal foods, dried flowers, seed potatoes, mustard, mushrooms, jams and jellies, wild rice products, perogies, bakery products, aquaculture products, dehydrated vegetables and several organic food products.

The Secretariat investigated the potential for developing markets for agri-food products in the Middle East: an area which annually imports \$40 billion of food products. This research led to the opening of relations with several countries. A sale of wheat has already resulted from this effort.

Organized and coordinated the Saskatchewan presence at Equitana 1991, the major horse show and trade fair in Germany. Equitana provides opportunity for Saskatchewan horse breeders and equipment manufacturers to gain exposure in the growing European pleasure-horse market.

Regulatory and Policy Issues

The ADD Secretariat is frequently called upon to review policy issues to assess their impact on development and diversification of the agri-food

sector. Some of the regulatory or policy issues were:

- the Canadian Wheat Board and Canadian Grain Commission regulations.
- the proposed regulation of the organic food industry.
- the Game Farming and Game Products Merchandising Regulations.
- the contracting of specialty crops and feed grain marketing.
- **The Agri-Food Act**
- the proposed Wild Animal and Plant Protection Act (Environment Canada).
- the legislation and regulations affecting the incentives for the ethanol industry.

Industry support

The ADD Secretariat worked closely with the food industry to encourage development through such initiatives as the recently formed Food Processors Association and the investigation of concepts such as a food-based incubator for developing companies. In addition, the Secretariat chairs three party (industry, government, university) steering committees overseeing government/industry supported services for the food processing industry.

Staff members provided input and direction to the interdepartmental alfalfa committee. Effort was directed at clarifying the opportunities and constraints as a first step in evaluating the possible expansion of the industry. A biannual consultation process has been established with the Saskatchewan Dehydrators Association.

Staff have been involved in developing a strategy to develop the ethanol industry in Saskatchewan. Effort was directed at looking at future market potential for ethanol and its by-products as well as changing the current regulations to take advantage of the emerging opportunities.

Agricultural Engineering Branch

The Agricultural Engineering Branch provides engineering leadership and resources for agriculture and food industry development.

The branch develops and implements policies, programs and services, and assists in the development of innovative and practical solutions to agricultural engineering problems in the following main areas:

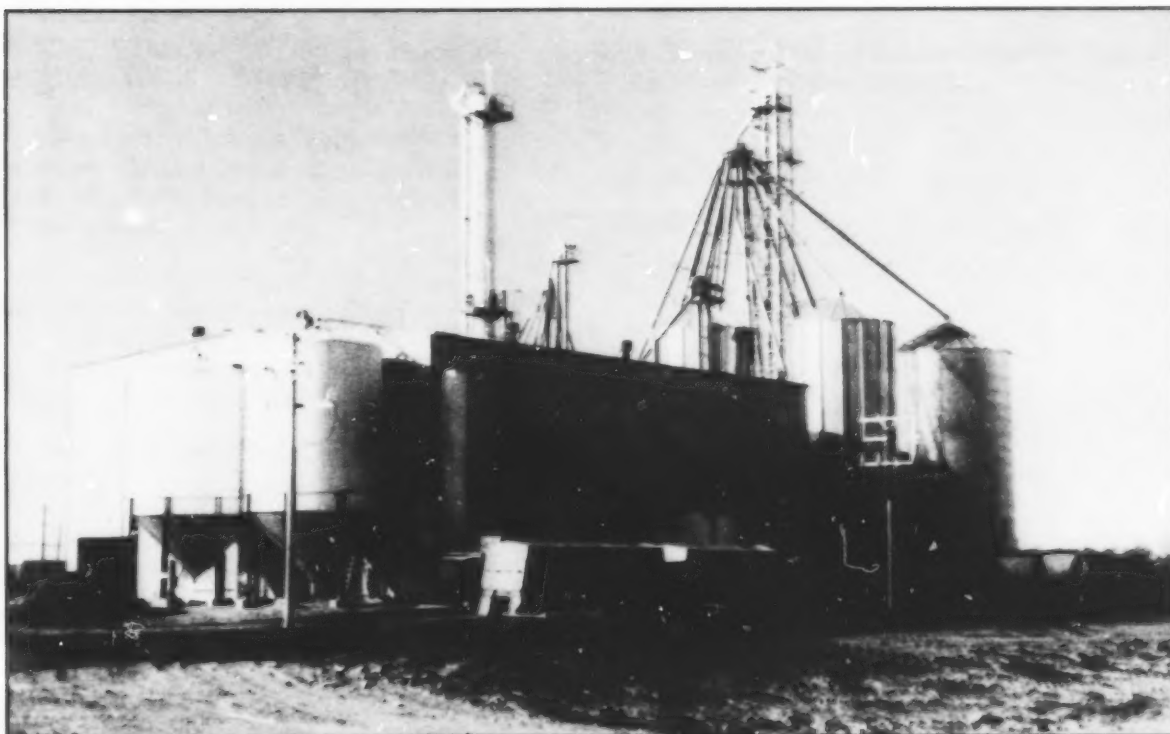
- primary and by-product processing;
- machinery management for soil conservation, environment protection and improved productivity;
- livestock facilities to meet animal care and welfare concerns;
- livestock manure management to meet requirements for clean air, clean water and socio-economic benefit, and
- efficient use of energy.

Animal health and welfare

Work continued on the Animal Health and Welfare Committee of the Saskatchewan Pork Producers Marketing Board to revise the Recommended Code of Practice for Care and Handling of Pigs. As one result, new standards for space allowances are being incorporated and barn designs are being modified. A straw-bedded system to promote animal comfort and welfare was constructed and is being evaluated.

Environmental activities

Concerns for air and water quality near intensive livestock operations (ILOs) continue to be addressed. Research and development projects are producing encouraging results for improved



Ethanol Processing: Construction of an ethanol processing plant at Lanigan was supported by the Agricultural Engineering Branch.

manure handling and odour control. The Saskatchewan Intensive Livestock Operations Guide of Recommended Practice will soon be published after considerable consultation with producer groups. At least one producer group is developing its own guide based on the model.

Staff also serve on a variety of task forces to assist industry in minimizing waste, handling dangerous goods and conserving energy.

Ethanol

An ethanol plant to produce 10-million litres annually is under construction. The construction has generated considerable interest and consequently staff has assisted many of the new proponents with information and consultation for their business development.

Diversification

Staff participated in the development and support of many projects to assist diversification and value-added processing in Saskatchewan. A key area of involvement is alfalfa processing for the export market.



Computerized Drafting: New technology such as computer-assisted drafting is changing the way the department conducts business.

Communications Branch

The objective of the Communications Branch is to disseminate information relating to programs, policies and services provided by Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food.

The Branch is responsible for providing the following:

- information about various programs, policies and services of the Department;
- technical information about all aspects of farming in order to enhance agri-food production and marketing;
- an understanding of the Government of Saskatchewan's commitment to the family farm;
- information about the Government of Saskatchewan's intentions to continue in a leadership role in Canadian agricultural deliberations.

Agricultural Library

The Agricultural Library provides information services to Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food and to the Saskatchewan Department of Rural Development.

The thrust of the reference collection and its development centres on agricultural diversification, food processing and the research of markets for food products which could use Saskatchewan's agricultural products.

In 1990-91, as part of its regular service, the Library:

- circulated more than 900 books and 700 periodicals to 250 patrons in 50 centres;
- borrowed 450 books and journal articles from other libraries, and lent 350 items to other libraries;
- performed 125 computer searches to find information about food companies, products and processes;

- monitored print and broadcast news daily for Canadian and international agriculture-related stories, and kept an index of these stories in the Library;
- handled numerous requests from the public, including producers, producer associations and students.

Publications Distribution Centre

The Publications Distribution Centre (PDC) stores and distributes publications produced by various branches of the Department and all final reports of projects funded by the Saskatchewan Agriculture Development Fund.

In 1990-91, the PDC received 3,000 orders for 800 titles published by Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food and the Saskatchewan Agriculture Development Fund. In total, 315,000 copies were distributed to the public and staff.

Of all requests for publications, about 40 per cent came from the Rural Service Centres.

Audio Visual Section

The Audio Visual Section provides assistance for all aspects of audio visual production within the Department.

In 1990-91, the Section's services included:

- producing about 4,500 computer-generated slides and overhead transparencies for use as illustrations during presentations by department staff;
- producing or assisting the production of four photographic-slide/tape programs to illustrate various programs offered by the Department;
- producing or assisting in the production of three videos for the department and its associated agencies;
- maintaining and expanding the library of 12,000 photographic slides;

- transferring film and video-tape items produced by Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food onto video tapes submitted by Saskatchewan producers. In 1990-91, there were about 1,900 requests for duplicate tapes.
- upgrading computer software, hardware and video-editing equipment to meet the needs of the Department.

Media Relations Section

The Media Relations Section coordinates the preparation and distribution of information about agricultural programs, policies and services.

Projects undertaken during the year to create greater agricultural awareness among urban and rural audiences were:

- Agriculture Week in Saskatchewan, sponsored by the Saskatchewan Weekly Newspaper Association, was held March 17 - 23, 1991, and focused on the theme of diversification.
- National Soil Conservation Week held in conjunction with Agriculture Canada, the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration

(PFRA), other Prairie provinces' departments of agriculture, and the Saskatchewan Soil Conservation Association (SSCA).

The week was held April 9 - 15, 1990, and emphasized the importance of soil and water conservation. Three highway billboards (Pass It On, Food for Thought, and It Works), developed jointly by the Department and the PFRA as part of the awareness campaign for soil conservation, placed second in the Exhibit/Display Category of the 1990 Canadian Agri-Marketing Association Awards competition held in Calgary on November 23. The entire Soil Conservation/Soil Agreement communications plan placed third in the Multi-Media Category.

- Agriculture in the Classroom Reference Committee of Saskatchewan Education. Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food provides technical information and serves as a consultant to this committee of Saskatchewan Education in an effort to further promote agricultural awareness.

In 1990-91, Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food assisted with the development of



Publications: Filipino agriculture teachers touring the department examine publications produced for distribution to the public.

Saskatchewan Education's Resource Series video called "Agriculture". This video was unveiled at the Canadian Western Agribition in November, 1990. Department staff assisted during the year with the development of a Teachers' Guide to accompany the video in Saskatchewan Grade 9 classrooms.

- **The Farm and Food Report**, a package of five feature articles about the agri-food industry distributed weekly to Saskatchewan newspapers, and radio and television stations, all Canadian farm media, and some Canadian business media.
- The Department's tabloid newspaper, **AgNews**, distributed monthly to all rural households in the province.
- The employee newsletter, **The Insider**, was published monthly and distributed to all employees of the department.

Print Section

The Print Section advises the department about cost-effective design and production for all department publications. The Section coordinates the production and distribution of all publications.

During the year, the Section:

- coordinated publication and production of materials for Lands Branch and Extension Service of Saskatchewan Rural Development;
- continued to edit and coordinate production of FarmFacts. These fact sheets provide updated information about various agricultural topics, are written by department agrologists and are published individually throughout the year in a loose-leaf format that allows farmers to collect them in three-ring binders;
- edited and coordinated production of extension agrologist regional newsletters.

Department Display

The department's display of Saskatchewan-processed food products was exhibited at the Farm Progress Show, Agribition, the National Soil Conservation Conference held March 7 - 9, 1991, in Regina, and the Meeting of Federal and Provincial Agriculture Ministers in March 1991.

Century Family Farm Award

The Century Family Farm Award continued to be administered by the Communications Branch. This award is awarded by Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food to honour family farms which have been operated continuously by members of one family for 100 years or more.



Department promoted: Staff members from branches throughout the department helped promote its activities by working at the department's display.

Economics Branch

The mission of the Economics Branch is to strengthen the primary agricultural and food processing sectors of the provincial agri-food industry through the provision of economic research, analysis and program delivery.

The Branch is organized into five functional sections, and an administrative unit, outlined as follows.

Farm Management Section

In 1990/91, the Farm Management Section continued its lead role in providing business management information training and services to the agri-food sector.

The Farm Management Section was:

- involved in negotiating and implementing a follow-up to the federal/provincial Farm Management Initiatives agreement. The \$1.8-million agreement is intended to assist farmers by providing:
 - 1) an intensive management skills upgrading program;
 - 2) several financial management courses through community colleges;
 - 3) a marketing and risk management training program;
 - 4) financial assistance to maximum economic yield clubs, and
 - 5) a farm management program targeted at farm women.
- assisted in the development of the National Agri-Food Policy review, under which a National Farm Business Management program proposal was endorsed by the Ministers.
- maintained and developed a base of management and economic information designed to assist farmers, farm advisors and other Department staff in making sound business decisions. The information base is maintained in 40 publications and over 50 fact

sheets which are routinely updated. (See Department Publications listed in this report.)

- analyzed the effect of income tax changes and the Goods and Services Tax (GST), fluid milk pricing changes, and the GRIP and NISA programs upon farmers and farm programs.
- helped implement the Top Management Program and analyzed the resulting cost of production data from the farms sampled.
- instructed courses on income tax changes and land leasing.
- helped organize, with the Saskatchewan Association of Chartered Accountants, seminars on farm business arrangements and farm law for accountants and lawyers at five locations in the province.
- helped organize, with three computer software companies, the Saskatchewan Agricultural Computer Conference.
- helped to organize and to deliver the "Challenging The 90s" conference to over 300 farmers. The conference brought together experts from across North America and Europe to discuss key issues in business management, economics, and trade in the agri-food sector.

Market Analysis Section

In 1990-91, the Market Analysis Section provided a wide range of services for the provincial agri-food sector.

Section activities were:

- helped to analyze the effect of regional and federal/provincial programs upon the agricultural community, and helped to further refine economic policy options and alternatives introduced to meet the needs of the agricultural community.
- monitored the farm income situation and coordinated the development of the Gross

Revenue Insurance Plan (GRIP) and the Net Income Stabilization Account (NISA) options to assist producers.

- helped design policy options relating to tripartite stabilization and the provision of administrative support for agricultural stabilization programs in Saskatchewan.
- monitored issues concerning the export of agricultural commodities and processed foods, which arose from international agreements such as the Canada-U.S. Trade Agreement (CUSTA), the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), and the imposition of countervailing duties on agri-food products originating from Saskatchewan. The Section was involved in a number of national and international committees that worked towards the resolution of such disputes.
- refined agricultural economic forecast services.
- co-ordinated the development and delivery of the Canada-Saskatchewan Crop Assistance Program which paid Saskatchewan farmers \$5.50 per cultivated acre.

Economic Research Section

The Economic Research Section provided the Branch with economic research, program development and review, policy information, legislative design and administrative services in 1990-91.

Section activities were:

- provided staff support to the Natural Products Marketing Council, which supervises the operations and activities of marketing agencies established under **The Natural Products Marketing Act**.
- provided advice to the Department on issues related to the marketing of natural products, and co-ordinated the establishment of the Saskatchewan Sheep Development Board.
- involved in the development and drafting of

The Farm Financial Stability Act and The Saskatchewan Agri-Food Bill.

- analyzed agricultural policies and programs.
- coordinated and assisted the development of new initiatives in farm finance, marketing and development.

Statistics Section

The Statistics Section provided a centralized system for the collection, analysis, interpretation and dissemination of statistical information relating to the agricultural and food processing industries in the Province of Saskatchewan.

Statistics Section activities in 1990/91 included:

- enhanced the cooperative working relationships with national agencies, such as Statistics Canada, in a national survey system and Agriculture Canada, with the implementation of a quarterly farm income outlook and forecast program, and the



Training and Services: Programs offered by the Economics Branch offer business management information to the agri-food sector.

initiation of a program to measure and report government expenditures in agriculture.

- responded to several hundred requests for information about various legal, social and economic factors which impact upon the rural economy.
- produced the annual statistics and fact sheet, Statfacts, the monthly and annual Cattle Marketing Reports, weekly Market Trends and weekly Precipitation Summary.
- produced the Saskatchewan Crop and Weather Reporting Program which provides information about crop conditions throughout the province on a weekly basis, from April through the completion of harvest in mid-October.
- produced the annual Specialty Crop Report which provides a comprehensive report of specialty crop area, yield, production, price and marketing information and the re-institution of the spring Specialty Crops Planting Intentions Survey.
- expanded the Saskatchewan Feed Grain and Forage Listing Service to include certified forage listings.
- participated in the federal/provincial review and evaluation of the Farm Input Price Index (FIPI), undertaken to improve indices used in

the GRIP, Indexed Moving Average Price (IMAP) calculation.

- monitored and analyzed the 1990 crop drought and the 1990-91 farm-income situation, and providing support services to federal and provincial agencies in addressing the immediate and long-term needs of the agricultural community.

Livestock Incentives Section

The Livestock Incentives Section is responsible for the implementation and administration of:

- the Feed Grain Adjustment Program (FeedGAP),
- the Production Associations Loan Guarantee Program for livestock purchases,
- the Livestock Investment Tax Credit Program and
- the Livestock Facilities Tax Credit Program.
- The Feed Grain Adjustment Program (FeedGAP) is intended to improve and stabilize the farm economy in Saskatchewan by encouraging a stronger livestock finishing sector.

FeedGAP, introduced in October, 1989, provides a direct payment of \$13 per tonne to producers for feed grain consumed by cattle, hogs, lambs, goats, game animals and horses



Conferences: Farm management and computer conferences sponsored by the Economics Branch are well attended by Saskatchewan producers.

which are finished in Saskatchewan for slaughter. Feed grain consumption is based on the weight gained while feeding and industry averages of feed grain required per pound of gain.

The program provided total grants of \$7,804,204 to March 31, 1991. Approximately 3,724 producers received payments averaging \$2,022 per producer.

In the last fiscal year, payments per animal averaged:

- \$18.38 per heifer, steer or virgin bull;
- \$5.16 per cull cow;
- \$4.25 per market hog;
- \$9.87 per slaughter horse;
- \$1.52 per market goat;
- \$1.36 per market lamb.

- The Production Associations Loan Guarantee Program for livestock purchases provides guarantees to financial institutions on loans made to members of associations for the purchase of feeder cattle, pregnant cattle and cow/calf pairs. The program promotes a growing livestock sector by assisting agricultural producers in obtaining loans at

reasonable terms and interest rates with relatively low equity requirements.

The programs currently in place are:

- 1) the Feeder Associations Loan Guarantee Program, introduced in July, 1984, and
- 2) the Breeder Associations Loan Guarantee Program, introduced in January, 1991.

During the 1990-91 fiscal year, there was an increase of nine feeder associations. As of March 31, 1991, there was a total of 70 feeder associations with 2,100 members and total guarantees of \$17,525,000 on authorized loans of \$70,100,000. Seven breeder associations also existed with 163 members and guarantees of \$1,018,750 on authorized loans of \$4,075,000.

- The Livestock Investment Tax Credit Program and the Livestock Facilities Tax Credit Program both expired on December 31, 1989. However, the deadline date for applications was June 30, 1990. Consequently tax credits were issued during the 1990-91 fiscal year.

Under the Livestock Investment Tax Credit Program, a tax credit was provided on a per head basis for feeder cattle, hogs and lambs sold for slaughter: \$3,607,483 in tax credits were issued to 1,938 applicants.

Under the Livestock Facilities Tax Credit Program, a 15 per cent tax credit was provided on the cost of constructing new livestock facilities and renovating existing facilities: \$1,992,799 in tax credits were issued to 986 applicants.

Both programs provided a seven-year carry forward for unused tax credits. Ongoing services are required for enquiries, interpretations and other income tax considerations.



Farm Organization Meetings: The department consults with farm organizations on a regular basis.

Human Resources Branch

The Human Resources Branch provides the departments of Agriculture and Food and Rural Development with staffing, classification, staff relations, staff development, training, and human resource planning services.

The Branch also provides payroll services to the departments of Agriculture and Food, Community Services, Environment and Public Safety, and Rural Development. Policy direction and guidance relating to personnel administration and management is also provided.

Administration

The Department of Rural Development amalgamated its human resource functions with the Human Resources Branch of the Department of Agriculture and Food, August 1, 1990. During the year, the Human Resources Branch:

- pursued efforts to improve and expand personnel services. Through representation on the department's Executive Management Team, the Branch was able to effectively coordinate and administer personnel management services within the departments.
- co-ordinated the Employment Fairness Program which provides advancement opportunities and employment for women in management and women in non-traditional positions, persons of native ancestry, and persons with disabilities.
- remained active on government-wide human resource committees and initiatives.
- co-ordinated the United Way campaign for the Department of Agriculture and Food.

Staffing

- coordinated 27 competitions for permanent positions for the departments of Agriculture and Food and Rural Development.
- assisted management in recruiting and hiring 507 casual, temporary and labour service employees.
- performed a total of 149 staffing actions for Agriculture and Food and 358 for Rural Development.

Classification

- reviewed a total of 63 requests for classification action for the two departments; recommendations were made and forwarded to the Public Service Commission for final determination.
- participated in implementing a new in-scope classification plan and prepared seven comparative position descriptions. Five additional positions were reviewed before the plan was put on hold.



Orientation: New staff members and students in work placement programs are introduced to the department through an orientation program offered by the Human Resources Branch.

Staff Relations

- worked with the Public Service Commission in the areas of collective bargaining and staff relations.
- co-ordinated and advised management in grievance procedure and actions.

Staff Development and Training

Staff development and training are ongoing priorities in both departments. The Department of Rural Development committed one person-year to the branch for training and development initiatives and introduced in-house training to employees. The Branch:

- participated in the new management and professional performance pay plan and trained all management, professional and management support group employees in Coaching for Results;
- arranged and presented 17 Serving People First sessions to Rural Development's head office and Rural Service Centre employees throughout the province;
- participated in the introduction of the Clear Language Program and attended facilitator's training for the program. Plans were also developed to present seminars to all employees in both departments.
- co-ordinated and enrolled 207 employees from both departments for a total of 392 courses from the Public Service Commission.
- participated in a Serving People First session and developed strategies and standards of service for its team.
- co-ordinated the development of strategic training plans and completed

- reports on staff development for the Public Service Commission for inclusion in the government-wide Strategic Training Plan for both departments.
- implemented and co-ordinated an Employee Wellness Program on topics relating to the maintenance of good health.

Orientation

The branch provides orientation for new staff members. The orientation program includes a video presentation about Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food and/or the Government of Saskatchewan, information on employee benefits, and a booklet on the Department of Agriculture and Food or the Department of Rural Development.

Payroll

The branch continues to provide a payroll service for the departments of Agriculture and Food, Community Services, Environment and Public Safety, and Rural Development.

During the months of maximum employment, approximately 1,300 payroll transactions per month were processed for the departments.



Workplace Wellness: Numerous health and fitness programs such as nutrition, fitness testing, quitting smoking, and the annual spring walking club (shown here) are promoted within the department by the Human Resources Branch in conjunction with Saskatchewan Health.

Livestock Branch

The Livestock Branch develops strategies, policies and programs in partnership with industry to increase the economic returns to Saskatchewan from animal agri-food industries. The Branch administers regulations to encourage a viable, competitive livestock and livestock products industry in the province.

Livestock Inspection

The mission of the Livestock Inspection Program is to protect ownership of livestock offered for sale in the province and to ensure that all persons dealing in, marketing or transporting livestock comply with legislation established to protect the ownership of livestock.

During 1990-91, the Livestock Inspection Program:

- inspected 1,159,020 animals with payment for

2,339 redirected to the rightful owners. The value of the redirected animals is estimated at well over \$1 million.

- provided services to 48 markets, approximately 200 feedlots, two major packing plants, 100 game farms, more than 100 feeder associations, 56 provincial pastures, 62 federal pastures plus numerous private and co-op pastures, ranch and small abattoirs. Livestock inspectors also provide audits for livestock-related agencies and programs such as the Agricultural Credit Corporation of Saskatchewan and National Red Meat Tripartite Program.
- promoted livestock identification by providing numerous demonstrations on ranches and at livestock field days as well as educational displays at fairs and exhibitions including Mexibition and the Canadian Western Agribition.



Livestock Protection:
Livestock and the ownership of livestock are protected through legislation implemented through the Livestock Inspection Program.

Activities for the past two years included:

	1989-90	1990-91
Inspections	1,193,971	1,159,020
Manifests processed	143,229	140,187
Registered brands on file	35,000	35,000
Missing cattle searches	597	445
Livestock Dealer Licenses	524	567
Livestock audits performed	7,500	2,000

Legislative and Regulatory Unit

The Legislative and Regulatory Unit ensures that legislation and regulations are supportive of the growth and development of Saskatchewan's livestock industry.

This unit is responsible for the administration of four acts and 17 regulations dealing with:

- inspecting and transporting of livestock;
- raising and processing of game farm animals;
- identifying domestic livestock;
- grading of beef;
- operating the dairy, poultry and egg sectors, and
- providing cattle-marketing deductions and horned-cattle penalties.

In 1990-91, the Unit:

- provided information to staff members, members of the public and commodity groups concerning the content and application of branch legislation and regulations.
- resolved, in association with Saskatchewan Justice, several regulatory conflicts and problems, and provided legal interpretations in a number of areas.
- co-ordinated regulatory procedures, enforcement, license suspension and cancellation, disbursement of bond proceeds, and disbursement of proceeds from sales when settlement was withheld.

- provided policy and program advice and support in the areas of a vendor security program, animal welfare and sustainable agriculture.

Dairy Industry Unit

Dairy Task Force

A Dairy Task Force comprised of dairy producers, government and university representatives was formed in 1990 to consider challenges and opportunities for the Saskatchewan dairy industry.

Members of the Saskatchewan Dairy Task Force made presentations to the national review of Canadian Dairy Industry.

A series of regional industry meetings was conducted to address butterfat production and consumption. These efforts resulted in a revised milk-fat differential payment system for Saskatchewan dairy producers which de-emphasized the fat content of milk. This was an industry first in Canada.

A study of the economic factors affecting future growth and survival of the Saskatchewan dairy industry was commissioned by the Dairy Task Force and funded by the Saskatchewan Agriculture Development Fund.

Milk Quality

The Provincial Dairy Laboratory provided test results and milk quality information to dairy producers and industry personnel involved in the milk quality assurance program, helping to maintain the Saskatchewan dairy industry's reputation for producing high quality milk.

Inspections

Inspections of all milk processing plants in Saskatchewan were jointly conducted with Agriculture Canada inspection staff. This co-operative effort is unique in Canada.

Lab Services

Contractual lab services were provided to the Milk Control Board and to the Saskatchewan Dairy Herd Improvement Corporation.

Certification Program

The Provincial Dairy Laboratory continued its participation in the development of a national lab certification program initiated to insure all lab test results meet user requirements.

Test results provided by the Provincial Dairy Laboratory included:

Milk quality tests	36,000
Milk payment tests	120,000
Milk recording tests	450,000

Agri-food Inspection

The Dairy Industry Unit participated in the Federal-Provincial Agri-food Inspection Committee whose mandate is to address technical barriers to the inter-provincial movement of agri-food products, inspection and food safety issues related to the production, manufacture and consumption of Canadian food products.

Pork Industry Unit

The purpose the Pork Industry Unit is to increase the contribution and impact of the pork industry on the economy of the province by providing programs and policies to ensure ongoing expansion.

Pork production decreased slightly in 1990-91 to just under one-million animals. The number of total production units decreased while there was an increase in new larger ones. The trend to larger production units will serve to stabilize numbers in future years.

A combination of economic circumstances and the United States pork countervailing duties and border meat inspection situation resulted in a reduction of pork slaughter in the province. A



Food Processing: The Livestock Branch assists the diversification of the meat processing industry.

higher proportion of live animals than has been traditional left the province.

Environmental and Animal Welfare Issues

In association with the Saskatchewan Pork Producers Marketing Board (SPPMB), the Unit organized an inter-commodity animal welfare workshop to discuss a proactive approach to the humane care of animals.

The development of a new Canadian Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Pigs continued with active participation from Pork Unit staff.

A study on the Handling and Management of Manure was initiated with co-operation of the unit, the Agriculture Development Fund and SPPMB.

The unit manager acted as writer for the Agriculture Sub-Committee to the Round Table on the Environment and Economy.

Organic Food

The unit manager acted as leader for the department Organic Task Force and worked with organic producers towards the formation of a unified industry association.

Farm Management

The unit, in association with SPPMB, began a major program to address farm management issues within the pork production sector.

Other Programs

Seminars were presented to Rural Development extension agrologists and specialists and Agriculture Credit Corporation staff.

The Technology Transfer Program operated by SPPMB continued.

Beef Industry Unit

The mandate of the Beef Industry Unit is to promote, develop and expand the beef industry in Saskatchewan through leadership and co-operation with beef industry leaders.

- Held one major conference, "What's in Stock For You?", developing communications within the beef industry to supply the types of products needed by consumers throughout the world.
- Assisted in the development of Beef Management Programs and recommended delivery mechanisms through industry organizations.
- Transferred the Winning With Beef Program to Saskatchewan Livestock Association (SLA) for delivery. Evaluation and re-development of the course was completed with assistance from the Beef Unit.
- Beef Herd Management Project was developed further so that SLA had a working program that could be utilized in the field. Assistance was provided in the development of a "Beef Co-ordinating Committee" for SLA to better manage all beef programs (Winning With Beef, ROP, Beef Herd Management Project).
- Worked with a committee and contractor to develop and implement a training course on Beef Risk Management.
- Assisted the Canadian Beef Breeds Council in the evaluation and planning for genetic evaluation centre for all beef groups.
- Initiated a feedlot survey of both feedlots and Rural Development staff to give us a read on what is happening in that industry in Saskatchewan.
- Renewed the contract for black fly control with the District Agriculture, Development, and Diversification (ADD) Board in Prince Albert due to success in 1990.
- Discussions started with beef organizations regarding the development of, or need for, a vendor security program for the beef industry.
- Developed a working arrangement with the University of Saskatchewan to study the use of ultrasonics to identify specific carcass traits on live beef animals.
- Completed and published the results of the 1990 Beef Reproductive Efficiency Database for use by the beef industry in the analysis of their industry.

Livestock Development Unit

The mandate of the Livestock Development Unit (part of the Beef Unit) is to promote, develop and expand on opportunities in the livestock industry not covered by the Beef, Pork or Dairy Units.

- Assisted the pheasant industry in the development of a marketing co-op to develop markets for their product.
- Recommended changes to the game farming regulations to help improve the system for keeping track of animals.
- Developed the game farming database which monitors animals and licensed game farmers.
- Worked with the Game Farming Association to develop long-term plans for the development of their industry.
- Continued to work with the bison industry in

the development of a strategy and infrastructure to take advantage of opportunities.

- Completed a study of the rabbit industry to analyze the economics of raising rabbits under Saskatchewan conditions.
- Assisted the Horse Racing Commission in getting approval for teletheatre use in Saskatchewan. Also helped with the plan for the horse racing industry for both the years 1990 and 1991.
- Developed contacts in all parts of the horse industry so that long-term strategic planning with the horse industry could begin in 1991-92.
- Initiated discussions with the fur farmers and the Wildlife Branch of the Department of Parks and Renewable Resources regarding the establishment of regulations and the licensing of this industry through the Department of Agriculture and Food.

Game Farms: Elk ranching diversifies Saskatchewan's livestock industry.



Soils and Crops Branch

Apiary Section

Honey Bees

The impact of four years of honey prices below the cost of production has begun to take its toll on the honey industry in Saskatchewan. Colony numbers declined to the 94,000 operated during the summer of 1990. There have been several bankruptcies and auction sales. A stabilization payment was made for the 1989 crop amounting to 3.38 cents per pound (net).

The honey crop for 1990 was approximately 15-million pounds, slightly better than the previous year despite the colony decline. Honey prices began to improve and beekeepers received approximately 50 cents per pound.

A total of 2,600 samples were submitted by beekeepers for tracheal mite analysis. The samples were also tested for Varroa mites and none were found. As a result of sampling during 1990, 40 beekeeping operations have been found infected with honey bee tracheal mites. Mites were found in 164 apiaries representing approximately 5,000 colonies. Infestations are being controlled.

The first swarms of Africanized bees were found in Texas in October, 1990. Approximately 75 swarms were caught in swarm traps in Texas by the spring of 1991. The appearance of these bees in Texas may create opportunities for Saskatchewan beekeepers to provide gentle stock to American producers. Already, sales of approximately 500 Saskatchewan-raised queens have been generated to producers in the United States. This will expand as the Africanized bee invades Texas in greater numbers and particularly if migratory beekeepers spread this bee to other areas of the United States. Saskatchewan producers are exploring the possibilities of future queen and package sales to the United States.

The introduction of two new crops to Saskatchewan, borage and hybrid canola, provided opportunities for a new source of income through pollination fees. The further expansion



Value-Added: Saskatchewan food processors add value to primary production. Shown here are some examples: mustard, wild rice, honey, wheat and fruit.

and development of these crops and others (blueberries in northern Saskatchewan) may provide significant income in the near future. The current development of sunola may provide an opportunity for tremendous expansion of the beekeeping industry in areas of the province that have not been conducive to beekeeping in the past.

Leafcutting Bees and Forage Seed

Leafcutting bees were released in the fourth week of June, 1990. Lygus bugs and alfalfa plant bugs reached very high numbers in prebloom alfalfa, and both caused severe bud blast. As in 1989, drought caused yield losses in some regions; even so, alfalfa seed yields were very good, averaging 250 pounds per acre. Saskatchewan produced 10-million pounds of the 26.5-million pounds of Canadian production. Pedigreed acres in Saskatchewan numbered 23,566 (18,158 acres public and 5,408 acres proprietary or unlicensed). Approximately 15,000 acres were harvested for common seed. Prices for common and certified seed of public varieties averaged 75 cents per pound, with some contracts much higher.

Leafcutter bee multiplication in 1990 was over two-fold. Levels of parasitism dropped from the

high levels of the previous two years, but parasitism is still a potential problem. Cocoon prices averaged 60 cents for good quality cocoons; most were sold into the United States. Chalkbrood was not found in Saskatchewan.

Weekly insect sampling was carried out in the Prince Albert, Mont Nebo and Carrot River areas. A three-year, nesting-materials comparison was completed; parasite control and incubation management studies were begun or continued. The Saskatchewan Agriculture Development Fund supported studies on parasite control in leafcutting bees, nesting material comparisons, weed control and soil fertility in alfalfa seed, through grants to the Saskatchewan Alfalfa Seed Producers' Association.

A mission from Kazakhstan in the Soviet Union was hosted at a Prince Albert alfalfa seed farm in October, 1990, and this initiative is to be followed by a return mission to Kazakhstan in April, 1991, to discuss the potential for leafcutting bees in that republic.

A grass seed production trial was initiated at Outlook with funds from the Irrigation-Based Economic Development to the Saskatchewan Forage Council.

Crop Protection Services

The Crop Protection Section provides extensive support for the agricultural industry in Saskatchewan and provides a variety of services to numerous client groups.

Crop protection services:

- provided consultative service to the Saskatchewan crop production industry with a focus on diversification. This was done through development of publications, films, slide sets, news releases, personal service and producer/industry meetings.
- provided monitoring and diagnostic services for pests of Saskatchewan crops.

- served as intermediary between the research community and the Saskatchewan agricultural industry to ensure that the crop protection research needs of the Saskatchewan crop production industry are met.
- developed and implemented crop protection policies.
- developed and implemented pesticide policies through a regulatory framework for pesticide use and pest control.
- helped develop a pesticide industry in Saskatchewan with a focus on biological control.
- maintained plant disease services.

Weed Control

The Provincial Weed Control Specialist provides technical information regarding weed control in Saskatchewan to the Extension Service of Saskatchewan Rural Development, farmers, agribusiness and other related industries.

In accordance with the Department's focus on diversification, the weed control specialist provided weed control information on alternate field crops, small fruit production, native fruit production and other horticulture or specialized crops.

In 1990-91, the weed control specialist also coordinated the Saskatchewan Agriculture Development Fund Biological Control of Persistent Perennial Weeds project.

During the year, more than 200 weed samples submitted to the Crop Protection Laboratory were identified. The specialist coordinated the revision of the publication "Weed Control in Field and Forage Crops".

Pest Control - Insect Control

The Provincial Insect Control specialist:

- co-ordinated insect surveys for wheat midge, diamondback moth, grasshoppers, Russian wheat aphid, armyworms and cutworms. The information obtained from these surveys assisted in predicting insect outbreaks, and allowed for timely and effective use of insecticides.
- conducted surveys to identify insect pests of saskatoons, chokecherries, blueberries, cranberries and pincherries, in accordance with the Department's continued thrust towards diversification of the agricultural economy.
- continued to act as the provincial coordinator for the Minor Use of Pesticides Program for specialty crops and played a role in the registration of insect control measures for saskatoon berries.

The Crop Protection Laboratory

The Crop Protection Laboratory:

- identified 250 insect specimens and provided control recommendations. Numerous other requests were received directly by telephone.
- received more than 1,000 samples for plant disease diagnosis. Technical support was provided for provincial Dutch Elm Disease surveys and the annual publication on chemical seed treatments was revised.

Pest Control - Vertebrate Control

The Pest Management Specialist responded to a variety of nuisance vertebrate inquiries from a wide variety of clients. Particularly troublesome species included rats, ground squirrels, pocket gophers, skunks, house sparrows and snakes.

The Department's diversification thrust was supported by increased efforts on problems such as pocket gophers in forage crops for seed, and

bird control in horticultural crops such as strawberries.

Pesticide Regulation

The Department regulates the use, handling and distribution of pesticides in Saskatchewan through **The Pest Control Products (Saskatchewan) Act** and its regulations.

Safe use of pesticides is encouraged through provision of pesticide safety information in pesticide publications and licensing of all commercial pesticide applicators. Approximately 1,000 commercial pesticide applicators were licensed in Saskatchewan in 1990-91.

Crop Technology and Development Section

The Crop Technology and Development Specialists provide extensive support for numerous client groups including growers, industry and government.

This section addresses the needs of crop producers and primary processors. Activities include:

- Development activities are carried out through close consultations with producers, commodity groups and industry. Specialists are active advisory members of the following grower associations: Saskatchewan Seed Growers' Association, Saskatchewan Sunflower Committee, Saskatchewan Pulse Crop Development Board, Canadian Mustard Association, Western Flax Growers' Association, Saskatchewan Canola Growers' Association, Flax Council of Canada, Canola Council of Canada, SeCan Association and Canadian Seed Growers Association.
- Specialists serve as intermediaries between the research community, the Saskatchewan agri-food industry and the Saskatchewan government to ensure the research needs of crops are met. Specialists participate on advisory committees for Agriculture Canada, the Saskatchewan

Agriculture Development Fund, the Crop Development Centre at the University of Saskatchewan, and the Canada-Saskatchewan Irrigation Economic Development Fund.

- Specialists represent Saskatchewan on the Western Expert Committee on Grain, on the Prairie Registration Recommending Committee and also on the Saskatchewan Agriculture Services Coordinating Committees (SASCC).
- Specialists work with producers and industry to encourage secondary processing of crops and to facilitate the introduction of new crops.

Cereal Crops

In 1990-1991, the Cereal Specialist:

- assisted in the implementation of GRIP and NISA safety net programs.
- encouraged adoption of new classes of wheat such as Canada Prairie Spring and Utility through contacts with producers and the industry.

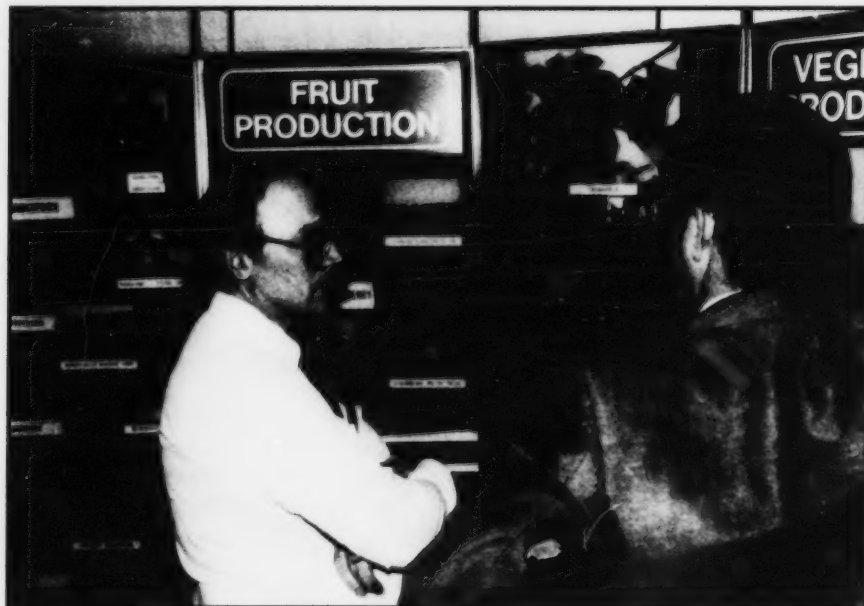
- provided consultation to processors and government on diversification and value-added projects. Emphasis was placed on markets for hulless barley and processing of various barley products.
- served on the Canadian Western Agribition Grain and Forage Show Committee.
- participated on the advisory committee to the South Saskatchewan River Basin Study.

Crop Diversification

Saskatchewan continued to be a major producer of lentils, field peas, mustard and canaryseed in 1990-91. Saskatchewan production of major specialty crops increased more than 50 per cent from 1989.

Growers are adopting special crops where adapted, and marketers and specialized cleaning plants are in place to handle the unique needs of these crops. Some consolidation of marketers occurred in 1990 with the purchase of one major contracting company and the closure or down-sizing of two others.

Diversified Production:
Horticultural crops such as fruit, vegetables, herbs, and flowers diversify Saskatchewan's agricultural production.



In 1990-1991, the Crop Diversification Specialist:

- compiled information on many potential herbs, spices and new crops. The information was provided to a new database installed at Rural Service Centres for easy access by the general public.
- represented the Department in federal/provincial negotiations for the National Tripartite Stabilization Program for Beans. In 1990-1991, 10 coloured-bean producers were enrolled, up from two in 1989.
- worked with the special crops processing industry to provide input into Canadian Grain Commission regulations which impact on further development in the industry.
- emphasized development of field beans, herbs, spices, seed potatoes and dried flowers.
- co-administered the Farmers' Market Program. In 1990, the Saskatchewan Farmers' Market Program was transferred to the Soils and Crops Branch. Grants are provided to the Saskatchewan Farmers' Market Association and to individual farmers' markets in support of direct sales of rural agri-food products.

Oilseeds

Production problems in canola due to Blackleg disease continue to reduce potential profits. Extension programs were directed at this problem. Flax production is currently adequate for the market demand. The Oilseed Specialist worked with the Flax Council to increase utilization of flax and flax products.

The oilseed crushing industry continued to rationalize. Two Canadian processing facilities merged with a multinational vegetable oil processor.

In 1990-1991, the Oilseed Specialist:

- continued to support development of new oilseed crops such as Sunola, Linola, and

oilseed mustard. Sunola may be registered for commercial production in 1992.

- worked with the Saskatchewan Canola Growers Association to facilitate the successful development of a check-off for canola.
- advised the Canola Council and Saskatchewan Canola Growers Association in the planning for and management of the Canola Productivity Centres which are a major vehicle for informing Saskatchewan farmers of new canola production technology.
- served on the Board of Directors and administered the Provincial Extension fund for SeCan Association. SeCan's extension fund supported the activities of many extension agrologists and commodity associations.
- assisted in the implementation of GRIP and NISA safety net programs.

Processed Forages

An inter-agency committee coordinated government support for the processed forage industry. The result of this strategy was improved communications with the industry and progress in new export protocols and new processing technology. Initial steps were taken to construct a new forage processing facility.

Horticulture Section

The Horticulture Section provided leadership and professional consultation to commercial producers of horticulture crops for fruit, vegetables, potatoes, herbs, mushrooms, turf, nursery, floral and greenhouse crops.

The section identified, investigated and evaluated new horticultural crops and technologies to increase horticulture diversification, development, marketing and processing.

Assistance was provided in establishing the methodology for gathering production statistics for fruit, vegetable and potato crops.

Fruit

The Fruit Specialist made numerous field calls to assist individual growers in planning their production marketing and processing strategies. Presentations on fruit crop opportunities were made at Saskatchewan Rural Development regional conferences, a northern development group, North-east Saskatchewan Fruit Growers' Association, the Saskatchewan Fruit Growers Association and the Saskatchewan Farmers Market Association. A tour of fruit farms in the Regina area was organized by the Saskatchewan Fruit Association.

Strawberries

Approximately 220 acres were in production in 1990. Assistance was provided to revise the Manitoba Strawberry Production Guide to include prairie provinces. Assistance was provided to prepare a brief to the Canadian International Trade Tribunal concerning American Strawberry Import prices.

Saskatoons

Approximately 100 acres are now in production. The Fruit Specialist assisted in the preparation of a Saskatoon Production Information package and a Saskatoon Production Guide. A two-day Saskatoon Production Workshop was held in Saskatoon. Assistance was provided for testing, demonstrating and registering the use of Decis for control of various saskatoon insects. A survey of insect and disease pests on Saskatoons was continued. Assistance was also provided for gathering production statistics for fruit crops.

Other Fruits

A number of demonstrations were held to demonstrate orcharding techniques at ADF Orchard Projects.



Saskatchewan-grown and -processed herbs and mustard.

Vegetables

A number of vegetable demonstration projects were initiated or continued using new technology such as plastic row covers and plastic mulch.

Potatoes

The seed potato task force continued to meet to further develop opportunities for exporting seed potatoes. A two-day seed potato production course was held at Outlook, and a field day was held at a seed potato farm to demonstrate equipment, machinery and storage facilities. A first draft of Bacterial Ring Rot Control Regulation was prepared to help secure an export market.

Nursery and Greenhouse Crops

The Nursery and Greenhouse Crops Specialist continued to work to develop these industries. Assistance was provided to help organize the Saskatchewan Dried Flower Association, and technical information was provided to potential and existing growers. Various meetings were attended to discuss concerns of the greenhouse industry including efforts to resolve credit for the greenhouse industry and financing problems. A number of short courses on landscaping were held in several communities, and lectures were given at various horticultural society meetings.

Soils Section

The mandate of the Soils Section is to provide leadership in promoting soil conservation, to administer the Canada-Saskatchewan Agreement on Soil Conservation, to provide specialist services in soil fertility and to carry out special projects related to soils and soil conservation.

Soil Conservation

- Administered the Canada-Saskatchewan Agreement on Soil Conservation in conjunction with the Agriculture Canada (PFRA), other provincial government departments and agencies, the Saskatchewan Soil Conservation Association; Agriculture, Development, and Diversification (ADD) Boards, and other non-government organizations. The first full year of programming under the \$54-million, three-year Agreement took place in 1990-91. The Agreement promotes soil conservation through five general activities: awareness and education, on-farm demonstration, land-use adjustment, research and development and soil inventory and monitoring.

On-farm demonstration is a major activity under the Agreement and is provided through the Save Our Soils (SOS) Program. This program is administered through 43 ADD Boards which receive funding from the PFRA and the Saskatchewan Agriculture Development Fund. The ADD Boards provide technical and financial assistance to producers who are interested in planting field shelterbelts or implementing soil conservation practices. During 1990, about 1,200 miles of shelterbelts were planted and about 500 miles were maintained. The program provided incentives for soil conservation projects covering 174,000 acres.

Environmental Issues

- Participated in the writing of the Saskatchewan State of the Environment Report and represented the Department on the Agriculture Advisory Group to the Round Table on the Environment and the Economy. Project reviews were completed to provide a soils perspective for environmental assessments.

Save Our Soils: The department promotes soil conservation through five general activities: Awareness and Education, On Farm Demonstration, Land Use Adjustment, Research and Development, and Soil Inventory and Monitoring.



Research

- Provided input into research evaluation through participation on the Agriculture Development Fund Soils Technical Committee and through meetings with research institutions.

Wild Rice Section

Production

Wild rice production in crop year 1990 was the highest at 2,408,028 pounds compared to 1,776,087 in 1989. Significant increase occurred at both the central and western regions which went up by 32 and 37 per cent respectively.

The 1990 crop was harvested by 212 producers distributed widely over northern Saskatchewan. Production levels have shifted in the past couple of years with 40 individuals producing between 10,000 and 30,000 pounds in 1990 compared with only 25 producing this amount in 1989. Fourteen individuals produced more than 30,000 pounds and 34 produced between 5,000 and 10,000 pounds in 1990.

Research

The three 1990 research projects continued from 1989. These projects were as follows:

1. Harvester improvement
2. Seedbed testing (Sediment redox potential)
3. Grain quality.

The harvester improvement study focused on both the effect of travel speed and harvesting to total season yield, losses and seed quality.

The study also included the development of a low-cost, travel-speed indicator and the evaluation of its performance during harvest operation. Finally, the study was also designed to determine the operating costs of the harvester.

In 1990, the sediment redox potential study continued the investigation of seedbed conditions with laboratory and field programs used to determine how poorly aerated seedbed conditions adversely affect the growth and development of wild rice.

The grain quality study was designed to monitor seed quality in plants that flowered sequentially through the growing season.

Potato Lake Horticulture Project

The thrust of the experiments in 1990 was to determine the potential of several crops for market gardening.

- Several new crops were tried along with other varieties of vegetables previously grown in the project.
- Micro-environmental modification studies continued.
- The small-fruit production study continued and included blueberries, strawberries, lingonberries and bog cranberries.

Veterinary Branch

The Veterinary Branch provides veterinary diagnostic analyses and professional advice for veterinarians, the public, and government officials in order to maintain a high quality of veterinary service in Saskatchewan. The operating principle is "to safeguard and promote animal health through veterinary service and advice."

Administration

The administration of the Veterinary Branch is responsible for laboratory services, herd management programs, and inspection of meat products to provide profitable livestock production, healthy animals and wholesome, residue-free food for consumers. The Branch is involved in various aspects of production, research, education and disease management. Much of the consultation is directed to veterinarians and agrologists with the intent of improving the ability of livestock producers and the public to obtain the maximum benefit from veterinary science and technology.

Laboratory services

The Veterinary Branch provides a complete diagnostic service. Pathology services include post mortem and histopathological examinations of all species, with emphasis on domestic mammals and poultry.

Pathologists collate their findings for each case with results of microbiological, toxicological and immunological tests. In addition, blood, tissue and fluid samples from live animals are analyzed.

Laboratory procedures are performed with the maximum efficiency, accuracy and speed that is required to satisfy veterinarians and animal owners, and to prevent economic and emotional hardship.

Significant events in the Laboratory include:

- Preparing a plan for computerization of the laboratory to:
 - 1) provide "daybook" submission data entry and tracking.
 - 2) collate results from laboratory equipment with corresponding "daybook" data to produce laboratory reports.
 - 3) run reports on submission numbers and final diagnoses.
 - 4) produce invoices and payment records.
 - 5) report laboratory results to veterinary clinics by facsimile machine.
- Analyzing costs and profit margins to set a fee schedule.
- Coordinating and evaluating services and fees of the Regina Veterinary Laboratory and the Western College of Veterinary Medicine Diagnostic Laboratory.
- Organizing the Disease Investigation Unit in conjunction with the Western College of Veterinary Medicine. Funding is provided from the Agriculture Development Fund for field investigations to investigate difficult veterinary diagnostic problems.
- Providing for staff development in testing technology and computer literacy.

Meat Inspection and Food Safety

The provincial Meat Inspection Program contracts Agriculture Canada inspectors to provide antemortem and postmortem examinations plus processing and sanitation inspection of structurally approved slaughter and processing facilities. This inspection is required to allow processors to sell meat to hospitals, nursing homes and city retailers. Investigation is continuing to streamline meat inspection systems, to enhance food safety and to improve economic opportunities in value-added processing.

Beef Production Management Program

This project is a producer-veterinarian team approach to cow/calf management. It emphasizes record-keeping and analysis which will ultimately improve herd management. With the assistance of the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture and Food and the Saskatchewan Livestock Association, beef producers are encouraged to use the management, diagnostic and advisory services of veterinarians to improve the profitability and productivity of their individual operations.

Swine Herd Health Policy

This policy has operated since 1974. It provides assistance to pork producers to obtain professional veterinary herd health and preventive medicine service. The policy pays a portion of the cost of veterinary visits to production units, including post mortem examinations done by the veterinarian.

This policy has provided assistance to well over 600 units and has aided farms that produce about 75 per cent of Saskatchewan's pork.

Hatchery Supply Flock Policy

The Hatchery Supply Flock Policy is designed to eradicate Pullorum Disease and Fowl Typhoid from poultry. An active sampling program monitors bacterial and fungal contamination in hatcheries to eliminate *Salmonella* infection, to improve hatchery and supply flock sanitation and to maintain Saskatchewan's provincial trade status.

Partnership with Industry

The Veterinary Branch maintains partnerships with industry and government organizations, and explores other areas where expertise can be shared. It is necessary to understand and

respond to the needs of the agri-food industries with government programs and policies. Current issues include:

- 1) Solving veterinary manpower shortages, attracting good candidates into veterinary medicine programs and developing incentives to keep graduating veterinarians in Saskatchewan.
- 2) Investigating veterinary pharmaceutical and biological retail sales to ensure responsible, ethical distribution and absence of residues in food products.
- 3) Ensuring veterinary service districts operate within the guidelines of **The Veterinary Service District Act** and consulting with the public and veterinarians regarding veterinary services.
- 4) Evaluating research proposals of the Livestock Technical Committee of the Saskatchewan Agriculture Development Fund to allocate funds to beneficial research, development and demonstration projects.
- 5) Working with the Saskatchewan Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals:
 - to licence peace officers to investigate animal abuse under **The Animal Protection Act**.
 - to form a multi-disciplined committee which includes producers to provide direction in animal welfare education and research. (Saskatchewan Advisory Council on Animal Health and Humane Care)
 - to develop a producer-based organization to speak on animal welfare issues for a broad spectrum of livestock groups.
 - to arrange for distribution of Codes of Practice so producers have guidelines to follow for good animal husbandry.

6) Recommending the destruction of every skunk within a one-mile radius of a rabies-positive animal has helped reduce the number of rabies cases in Saskatchewan from several hundred in 1986 to about 50 in the last year.

7) Developing the regional component of Food and Agriculture Emergency Response System (F.A.E.R.S.) with Saskatchewan. The goal of this emergency management strategy is to ensure the continuity and safety of the nation's food stocks in a crisis by co-ordinating the response of existing organizations and programs.



Promoting Animal Health:
Veterinary pathologists perform a variety of scientific tests to protect livestock and the livestock industry.

Counselling and Assistance for Farmers

The Counselling and Assistance for Farmers' Program provides counselling and operating and/or consolidation loan guarantees to eligible farmers who have been denied operating loans from their primary lending institutions.

In 1990-91, 738 farmers applied under the program and received counselling by farmer panels who have proven production and financial management abilities.

The counselling includes suggesting farm operating changes which would enhance the viability of a farm. For those operations which have the potential of being viable, the panels recommended that operating and/or consolidation loan guarantees be offered to the designated lender.

In 1990-91, lenders accepted 422 operating loan and consolidation loan guarantees totalling \$26,629,000. The average guarantee was \$63,000. Where applicable, the 1989-90 loan guarantees were extended for the 1990-91 year.

Saskatchewan Agriculture Development Fund (ADF)

Profile

In 1985, the Government of Saskatchewan announced a commitment to the future of Saskatchewan's agriculture and food industry through the establishment of the Saskatchewan Agriculture Development Fund (ADF).

The ADF is governed by a 10-member board of directors which includes producers, agricultural businessmen, the western region Director General of research for Agriculture Canada and the Deputy Minister of Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food.

The success of ADF is reflected in the number of people who have completed projects. These people represent a varied cross-section of Saskatchewan's agricultural industry. Their initiatives in primary production, diversification, commercialization, and food processing will help keep Saskatchewan's agri-food industry competitive in increasingly-complex global markets.

ADF provides the funding for research, development, demonstration and food projects, but the individuals who apply for that funding are the true success stories. They have taken the initiative to explore new ways to help Saskatchewan's agriculture and food industry remain competitive and profitable.

In 1990-91, 349 projects were approved for total funding of \$25.9 million, which includes capital infrastructure in irrigation.

Market Expansion

Intensive management procedures and new diversification opportunities are being investigated so that farmers might take advantage of new markets.

Densified hay bales

A feasibility study indicates the market for long-fibre hay, such as alfalfa, timothy and oat hay, is expanding in Japan and other Pacific Rim countries.

To produce field hay for export and eliminate damage due to rain, a new concept of dehydration had to be developed. With assistance from ADF, a system was designed to process high moisture round bales into dense cubes of hay with only 10 per cent moisture.

Potato stock

Saskatchewan seed potato growers can now purchase disease-free stock in their own province.

In the past, seed potato growers relied on Alberta or Manitoba for disease-free stock. Local growers were given priority and Saskatchewan seed potato growers often had to turn to sources in the United States, where disease-free stock is more expensive.

Canola

A recent tour of canola production centres in Saskatchewan by the Japanese was termed very successful. Japan is our biggest canola customer. Of the 3.4-million tonnes of canola grown in Saskatchewan last year, two-million tonnes was shipped to Japan.

New and innovative canola production techniques are often explored by producer groups such as the Saskatchewan Canola Growers Association with assistance provided by ADF.

Value-added Product Development

Saskatchewan has made great strides in developing value-added products in the past decade. Many of these products are now marketed in Saskatchewan, some even have extended their markets across national and international borders. Examples are:

Wheat products

Entrepreneurs are opening new markets for Saskatchewan-produced wheat through the development of products such as wheat nuts and wheat cakes.

CSP Foods' Baking Centre located in Saskatoon is introducing national and international bakers to Saskatchewan techniques and products.

Meat industry

Meat processors throughout the province are receiving support from the Saskatchewan Food Product Innovation Program to address the challenges of their industry and develop new product ideas.

Game meat production and processing is being explored to determine direct sale options and value-added opportunities.

Fruit industry

Saskatchewan-produced jams and jellies are developing a reputation as high-quality products.

Locally produced honey blended with home-grown fruit is another example of how innovation can add value to a product and thus enhance a market.

Biotechnology

Biotechnology operates on the basic understanding that all living organisms are composed of the same chemicals, consist of cells, and share the same basic functions (feeding themselves, reproducing and relating to their environment).

What makes an organism unique is how all these elements are put together -- its genetic make-up.

Biotechnology involves being able to identify specific elements (genes) or groups of elements that cause certain responses. For example, if scientists were able to identify what gives a certain plant tolerance to a certain disease, they could, theoretically, transfer that gene to other plants and pass on the tolerance. Such genetic engineering speeds up the development of new and improved crop varieties.

The rapidly expanding field of biotechnology is revolutionizing agricultural research and development. Forms of biotechnological research have been used in plant and animal improvement for decades. Some examples are listed below.

Pest control

Control agents against insect pests such as grasshoppers, mosquitoes and black flies.

Vaccine development

Vaccines to combat calf scours, shipping fever, respiratory diseases in cattle and swine, and a variety of poultry diseases.

Animal growth and reproduction

Biotechnological techniques are being employed to improve animal growth and reproduction.

Crop development

Advancements in biotechnology are helping plant breeders put new crop varieties into farmers' hands more quickly.

In supporting the further development and use of biotechnological techniques, ADF is helping Saskatchewan to maintain its leading role in agricultural research and development through the support of Ag-West Biotech.

Environment

ADF is playing an active role in a one-year, \$4.58-million, Canada-Saskatchewan Agreement on Environmental Sustainability.

The federal-provincial agreement will support 79 projects on resource management and environmentally sustainable agriculture practices. Activities supported under the agreement will include:

- research into biological pest control;
- an agricultural chemical collection program;
- production of soil resource information maps to be used in regional, district and on-farm conservation planning;
- production of educational material including a school module on sustainable agriculture, and
- innovative wildlife habitat management.

ADF administers the \$2.9-million provincial commitment to the agreement.

Additional Information:

Cattle Marketing Deductions Fund

Financial Statements

Year ended March 31, 1991

Auditor's Report

To the Members of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

I have audited the balance sheet of the Cattle Marketing Deductions Fund as at March 31, 1991, and the statement of revenue, expense and operating surplus for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Fund's management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In my opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Fund as at March 31, 1991, and the results of its operations and the changes in its financial position for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting principles disclosed in Note 1 to the financial statements.

W. K. Strelloff

Regina, Saskatchewan
August 9, 1991

W. K. Strelloff, C.A.
Provincial Auditor

Cattle Marketing Deductions Fund

Statement 1

Balance Sheet as at March 31,

	1991	1990
Assets		
Current Assets:		
Cash	\$ 40,173	\$ 79,193
Due from Consolidated Fund	934,415	---
Marketable securities, at cost		995,000
which approximates market	---	
Accounts receivable	295,439	206,733
	<u>\$1,270,027</u>	<u>\$1,280,926</u>
Liabilities and Operating Surplus		
Current Liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 14,449	\$ 7,285
Surplus:		
Operating surplus - Statement 2	1,255,578	1,273,641
	<u>\$1,270,027</u>	<u>\$1,280,926</u>

Commitments (Note 3)

(see accompanying notes to the financial statements)

Statement 2

Statement of Revenue, Expense and Operating Surplus
Year ended March 31,

	1991	1990
Revenue		
Deductions under sections 3 and 4 of The Cattle Marketing Deductions Act and Regulations	\$1,085,062	\$1,106,971
Less Commissions	31,955	32,814
Net deductions	1,053,107	1,074,157
Bank and investment interest	132,834	121,313
Total revenue	<u>\$1,185,941</u>	<u>\$1,195,470</u>
Expense		
Grants (Schedule 1)	1,163,305	1,284,250
Refund of deductions	35,286	23,943
Advisory Committee and other expenses	5,413	3,866
Total expense	<u>1,204,004</u>	<u>1,312,059</u>
Excess of (expense over revenue)	(18,063)	(116,589)
Operating surplus, beginning of year	<u>1,273,641</u>	<u>1,390,230</u>
Operating surplus, end of year	<u>\$1,255,578</u>	<u>\$1,273,641</u>

(See accompanying notes to the financial statements)

Cattle Marketing Deductions Fund

Notes to the Financial Statements March 31, 1991

1. Accounting Policies

- a) The financial statements are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting.
- b) Grants are recorded as expense when requests for specific payments are received and approved.
- c) The fund has not been charged with occupancy costs or administrative salaries and no provision for such costs is reflected in these statements. These costs are borne by the Department of Agriculture and Food.

2. Legislative Assembly

- a) Pursuant to the provisions of **The Cattle Marketing Voluntary Deductions Amendment Act, 1983** proclaimed into

force August 29, 1983, the Cattle Marketing Voluntary Deductions Act Trust Fund was continued as the Cattle Marketing Deductions Fund and the assets and liabilities of the Cattle Marketing Voluntary Deductions Act Trust Fund were deemed to be the assets and liabilities of the Fund.

- b) The Fund is administered by an Advisory Committee established under the Act who authorize all expenditures from the Fund subject to the approval of the Minister of Agriculture and Food.

- c) The purpose of this Fund is to develop, improve and promote the cattle industry.

3. Commitments

At March 31, 1991, the fund approved grants totalling \$865,607 for payment in the year ended March 31, 1992, and \$195,000 for payment in the year ended March 31, 1993.

Schedule 1

Schedule of Grants Year ended March 31,

	1991	1990
Canadian Cattlemen's Association:		
Operating Expenses	\$ 117,290	\$ 95,198
Beef Information Centre and		
National Advertising Campaign	780,000	822,500
	<u>897,290</u>	<u>917,698</u>
Veterinary Infectious Disease Organization	75,000	75,000
University of Saskatchewan		
(Department of Animal & Poultry Science)	60,000	120,000
Saskatchewan Stock Grower's Association	47,725	6,015
Canada Beef Export Federation	30,000	---
Saskatchewan Beef Information Centre	25,000	40,000
Saskatchewan Cattle Feeders' Association	19,940	28,622
Saskatoon Research Station	5,000	---
Canadian Angus Association	3,000	---
Saskatchewan Agricultural Hall of Fame	350	700
Saskatchewan Feed Testing Laboratory	---	65,000
Prairie Agricultural Machinery Institute	---	21,215
Dr. Andrew Schmitz	---	10,000
	<u>\$1,163,305</u>	<u>\$1,284,250</u>

Farm Purchase Program Fund

Financial Statement

Year ended March 31, 1991

Auditor's Report

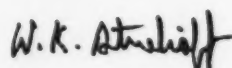
To the Members of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

I have audited the statement of receipts and payments of the Farm Purchase Program Fund for the year ended March 31, 1991. This financial statement is the responsibility of the Fund's management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on this financial statement based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In my opinion, the statement of receipts and payments presents fairly, in all material respects, the cash position of the Fund as at March 31, 1991, and its receipts and payments for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting principles disclosed in Note 2 to the financial statement.

Regina, Saskatchewan
June 17, 1991


W. K. Strelloff, C.A.
Provincial Auditor

Farm Purchase Program Fund

Statement of Receipts and Payments For The Year ended March 31,

Receipts	1991	1990
Appropriation - Saskatchewan Heritage Fund - Agricultural Division (Note 1)	\$13,301,593	\$12,322,600
Lease payments	5,950,295	7,001,956
Penalties	321,569	429,683
Interest on loans	318,812	380,670
Interest on investments	345,831	212,531
Total receipts	<u>20,238,100</u>	<u>20,347,440</u>
Payments		
Interest (Note 1)	20,083,411	20,195,040
Advertising	154,681	152,408
Total payments	<u>20,238,092</u>	<u>20,347,448</u>
Excess of receipts over payments	8	(8)
Cash, beginning of year	<u>(8)</u>	<u>---</u>
Cash, end of year	<u>\$ ---</u>	<u>\$ (8)</u>

(See accompanying notes to the financial statement)

Farm Purchase Program Fund

Notes to the Financial Statement March 31, 1991

1. Legislative Authority

The Farm Purchase Program Fund was established April 1, 1983, pursuant to The Farm Purchase Program Act, which was assented to December 17, 1982.

a) Receipts

Pursuant to Section 8(2) of this Act, the following receipts were placed to the credit of the fund:

- i) lease payments on land formerly held by the Saskatchewan Land Bank Commission;
- ii) penalties on arrears of lease payments;
- iii) interest payments on loans for improvements made pursuant to Section 22 of The Land Bank Act;
- iv) penalties on arrears of interest payments;
- v) interest earned on deposits or investments;
- vi) sums appropriated by the Legislature for the purposes of the fund;
- vii) advances from the Consolidated Fund.

b) Payments

Pursuant to Section 8(3) of this Act, payments were made out of the Fund for interest costs on debt incurred by the former Saskatchewan Land Bank Commission. These payments were made to the Consolidated Fund.

2. Accounting Policies

These financial statements are prepared using a modified cash basis for a fiscal year commencing on April 1 and ending March 31. Receipts are recorded as received and payments are charged

to the accounts when payments are made. In addition, receipts received in the 30 days of April, in respect of revenues raised up to March 31 of the preceding fiscal year, and payments made during the 30 days of April which are for goods and services received in the preceding fiscal year are reported as receipts and payments of the preceding fiscal year. Accordingly, the financial position of the fund at March 31, 1991, does not include the following items:

- i) amount due from Department of Rural Development - Lands Branch - \$145,664 (1990 - \$241,651);
- ii) accrued interest costs - \$6,834,817 (1990 - \$6,834,817)

3. Advances

Pursuant to Section 8(4) of **The Farm Purchase Program Act** the Fund receives advances from the Consolidated Fund as required for the purposes of the Fund, subject to prescribed terms and conditions. Following is a summary of advances received and repayments:

	1991	1990
Advances	\$10,817,936	\$20,072,275
Repayments	10,817,936	20,072,275
	<u>\$ ---</u>	<u>\$ ---</u>

4. Costs Borne by Other Agencies

The fund has not been charged with occupancy costs or administrative salaries and no provision for such costs is reflected in these statements. These costs are borne by the Departments of Agriculture and Food and Rural Development.

5. Related Parties

Related parties to the Fund are Saskatchewan Crown controlled departments, agencies and corporations. Transactions with these parties are recorded at normal market prices except as described herein.

Horned Cattle Fund

Financial Statements

Year ended March 31, 1991

Auditor's Report

To the Members of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

I have audited the balance sheet of the Horned Cattle Fund as at March 31, 1991, and the statement of revenue, expense and operating surplus for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Fund's management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In my opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Fund as at March 31, 1991, and the results of its operations and the changes in its financial position for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting principles disclosed in Note 1 to the financial statements.

W. K. Strelloff

Regina, Saskatchewan
August 23, 1991

W. K. Strelloff, C.A.
Provincial Auditor

Horned Cattle Fund

Statement 1 Balance Sheet as at March 31,

	1991	1990
Assets		
Current Assets:		
Cash	\$ 41,184	\$ 55,652
Due from Consolidated Fund	567,405	---
Marketable securities, at cost which approximates market	---	585,000
Accounts receivable	69,400	40,780
Inventory of cattle (Note 3)	400,553	386,065
	<u>\$1,078,542</u>	<u>\$1,067,497</u>
Liabilities and Operating Surplus		
Current Liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 74,527	\$ 19,287
Surplus:		
Operating surplus - Statement 2	1,004,015	1,048,210
	<u>\$1,078,542</u>	<u>\$1,067,497</u>
Commitments (Note 4)		

(See accompanying notes to the financial statements)

Horned Cattle Fund

Statement 2

Statement of Revenue, Expense and Operating Surplus Year ended March 31,

	1991	1990
Revenue		
Deductions under Section 3 and 4 of The Horned Cattle Purchases Act	\$ 217,769	\$ 219,286
Less Commissions	(3,308)	(3,272)
Net deductions	<u>214,461</u>	<u>216,014</u>
Pathlow Beef Research Project (Note 3)	138,718	149,279
Swift Current Forage Project (Note 3)	137,349	28,137
Interest	79,392	63,544
Total Revenue	<u>569,920</u>	<u>456,974</u>
Expense		
Grants (Schedule 1)	354,484	231,960
Pathlow Beef Research Project - operating costs	156,058	197,686
Swift Current Forage Project - cattle purchases and operating costs	98,942	---
Advisory Committee expenses	<u>4,631</u>	<u>2,522</u>
Total Expense	<u>614,115</u>	<u>432,168</u>
Excess of revenue over expense (expense over revenue)	(44,195)	24,806
Operating surplus, beginning of year	<u>1,048,210</u>	<u>1,023,404</u>
Operating surplus, end of year	<u>\$1,004,015</u>	<u>\$1,048,210</u>

(See accompanying notes to the financial statements)

Horned Cattle Fund

Notes to the Financial Statements March 31, 1991

1. Accounting Policies

- a) The Horned Cattle Fund uses the accrual basis of accounting.
- b) Grants are recorded as expense when requests for specific payments are received and approved.
- c) Cattle inventory is valued at approximate realizable value at the fiscal year end (Note 3).
- d) The Fund has not been charged with any occupancy costs or administrative salaries and no provision for such costs is reflected in these statements. These costs are borne by the Department of Agriculture and Food.

2. Legislative Authority

Pursuant to the provisions of The Horned Cattle Purchases Amendment Act, 1983, proclaimed into force October 1, 1983, the Horned Cattle Trust Fund was continued as the Horned Cattle Fund and the assets and liabilities of the Horned Cattle Trust Fund are deemed to be the assets and liabilities of the Fund.

The purpose of this Fund is to promote research and development in the livestock industry.

3. Inventory of Cattle

In view of the difficulty which exists in assigning on a rational basis the costs of production to animals at various stages of maturity and since the correlation between costs and revenue is not nearly as close as in most businesses, the inventory of cattle held is valued at approximate realizable value at the fiscal year end. The corresponding changes in inventory from one year to the next have been described as Appreciation (decline) in value of herd.

Revenue from Pathlow Beef Research Project

	1991	1990
Cattle sales	\$141,683	\$307,092
(Decline) in value of herd	(2,965)	(157,813)
Total revenue	<u>\$138,718</u>	<u>\$149,279</u>

Revenue from Swift Current Forage Project

	1991	1990
Cattle Sales	\$117,355	\$ ----
Net revenue - SouthWest Forage Association	---	18,545
Appreciation in value of herd	19,994	9,592
Total revenue	<u>\$137,349</u>	<u>\$ 28,137</u>

4. Commitments

At March 31, 1991, the Fund approved grants totalling \$186,990 for payment in the year ended March 31, 1992, and \$75,000 for payment during the period 1993 to 1995.

Horned Cattle Fund

Schedule 1

Schedule of Grants

Year ended March 31,

	1991	1990
University of Saskatchewan (Department of Animal and Poultry Science)	\$105,900	\$ 10,700
Western College of Veterinary Medicine	63,500	132,500
University of Saskatchewan (Research Services Section)	37,300	12,100
Canadian Western Agribition Association	35,000	35,000
University of Saskatchewan (College of Agriculture)	25,000	---
Saskatchewan Advisory Committee for Beef Cattle Improvement	21,774	---
Saskatchewan Research Council	15,000	---
Saskatoon Prairieland Exhibition Corporation	15,000	5,000
Agricultural Insight Foundation Inc.	10,000	10,000
SaskCan Livestock Export Inc.	10,000	---
Central Butte and District Agricultural Society	8,000	---
Saskatoon Research Station	5,000	---
Ogema and District Agricultural Society	1,750	---
Saskatchewan Shorthorn Association	1,000	---
Reg Schellenberg	260	---
Melfort Agricultural Society	---	17,560
Maple Creek Veterinary Services District	---	3,000
Western Canada Kochia Association	---	2,600
Perdue Agricultural Society	---	2,500
Canadian Charolais Youth Association	---	1,000
	<u>\$354,484</u>	<u>\$231,960</u>

Department Publications, 1991

Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food

Building a Partnership -- A Strategic Direction

ADD Secretariat

Healthy Eating: How Four American Firms are
Responding

Organic Grain Products Marketing Study

Agricultural Engineering Branch

Natural Air Grain Drying

Aeration of Grain in Storage

Seeding Equipment for Forages

Harvest Aids for Pulse Crops

Pesticide Storage

Plans and Publications Index

Economics Branch

Farm Management Section

Cash Lease Agreement

Cost of Producing Grain Crops

Crop Share Lease Agreement

Design Your Own Farm Accounting System

Economics of Natural Air Grain Drying

Economics of Straight Combining

Estate Planning for Farm Families

Farm Business Arrangements

Farm Business Planner

Farm Computer Home Study (Brochure)

Farm Credit Management

Farm Incorporation

Farm Machinery Custom & Rental Rate Guide

Fertilizer Economics

Flexible Cash Lease Agreement

General Use Software and the Farm

Goals for Family Living and Farm Management

Invest Off the Farm

Insurance Management for Farmers

Land Rental Arrangements

Law for Saskatchewan Farm Families

Leasing Farm Machinery

Machinery Economics

Managing Your Farm Income Tax Plan

Part Time Farming in Saskatchewan

Pasture Lease Agreements

Personnel Management for Farmers

Potential of Chaff

Real Estate Transactions

Sources of Farm Credit in Saskatchewan

Farm Management Section -- FarmFacts:

Crop Planning Guide, Black Soil Zone

Crop Planning Guide, Dark Brown Soil Zone

Crop Planning Guide, Brown Soil Zone

Contracts for Special Crops

Custom Rate Recommendations

Economics of Chemical Fallow

Establishing the Value of Land

Fair Rental of Grain Land

Fallow vs Stubble Cropping, Black Soil

Fallow vs Stubble Cropping, Dark Brown Soil

Fallow vs Stubble Cropping, Brown Soil

Farm Estate Planning Using Life Insurance

Farm Machinery Custom & Rental Rate

Suggestions

Field Record Sheet

Guide for Estimating Farm Machinery Costs

How Much Debt Can You Afford When Buying
Land

How to Reconcile Your Cheque Register to Your
Bank Statement and Account Book Inventory
Worksheet

Investment Decisions

Land Leasing and the Farm Safety Net Programs

Production Records for Management Decisions

Purchasing a Farm Computer

Top Canola Marketing Strategies

Soils and Crops Branch

Fall Biology and Management of Alfalfa

Leafcutting Bees. Proceedings of the Grass Seed

Industry Development Seminar,

Annual Specialty Crop Market Synopsis

FarmFacts: Coriander, Caraway, Amaranth,
Sweet Lupin and Evening Primrose.

SDAF Publications List -- a yearly list of all
publications available

ADF Publications -- see Progress Report

Conferences Sponsored or Co-sponsored by the Department, 1990-91

ADDS Conferences Sponsored, Co-sponsored or Attended

Canadian Dehydrators Convention, Saskatoon
Canada - Japan Trade Council, Saskatoon
Organic Industry, Saskatoon
Business Opportunities Show, Food Centre,
Saskatoon
Second International Wildlife Ranching
Symposium
Buffalo Days, Regina

Agricultural Engineering Branch

Livestock Facilities Odour Control Workshop
Canada Plan Service Management Committee
Annual Meeting

Economics Branch

Farm Management Section

Challenging the '90s (farm business
management)
Saskatchewan Agriculture Computer Conference

Livestock Branch

Saskatchewan Pork Industry Symposium
Pork Expo (both organized in association with
SPPMB)
"What's in Stock For You?" (beef conference)

Soils and Crops

Forage seed presentations were made to growers
in Kerrobert and Turleford.
A grass seed seminar was organized in February,
1991.

Conferences:

1990 Crop Market Prospects Conference
1991 Canola Council Conference
1991 SeCan Annual Meeting
1991 Canadian Dehy Association Conference
1991 Western Flax Growers Conference and
Annual Meeting

Saskatchewan Legislation Administered by Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food

Previously enacted legislation:

**Agriculture Development Fund Act
Agri-Food Act
Agrologists Act
Animal Identification Act
Animal Products Act
Animal Protection Act
Apiaries Act
Beef Stabilization Act
Cattle Marketing Deductions Act
Crops Payment Act
Dairy Workers (Maintenance of Operation) Act
Department of Agriculture Act
Diseases of Animals Act
Drainage Act
Farmers' Counselling Assistance Act
Farm Financial Stability Act
Farming Communities Land Act
Farmers' Oil Royalty Refund Act
Farm Purchase Program Act
Feeder Association Loan Guarantee Act
Government Organization Act (administered by SDAF)
Grain and Fodder Conservation Act
Horned Cattle Purchases Act
Horse Racing Commission Act
Line Fence Act
Livestock Facilities Tax Credit Act
Livestock Investment Tax Credit Act
Milk Control Act
Noxious Weed Act
Pest Control Act
Pest Control Products (Saskatchewan) Act
Pollution (By Livestock) Control Act
Prairie Agricultural Machinery Institute Act
Sale or Lease of Certain Lands Act
Saskatchewan Agricultural Returns Stabilization Act
Seed Grain Advances Act
Soil Drifting Control Act
Vegetable and Honey Sales Act
Veterinarians Act
Veterinary Services Act**